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REMARKS

Claims 3-7, 9-11, 14-17, 19, and 21-25 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of July 1, 2003, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Examiner's Amendment

The Examiner's Amendment is acceptable.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-7, 9-11, 14-17, 19, and 21-24 are allowed.

Art Rejections

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsui et al., Journal of Sol-Gel Science and Technology (1997), Vol 9, pages 273-277.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 18 has been rewritten as new claim 25. Claim 25 restricts the catalytic material to chemically doped materials, excluding physically doped materials. Matsui et al. describe physically doped materials. Therefore, it is believed that claim 25 is not anticipated by Matsui et al.

Appln. No. 09/646, 346 Amd. dated October 8, 2003 Reply to Office Action of July 1, 2003

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne M. Kornbau

Registration No.: 25,884

AMK:zv

Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197 Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528 G:\BN\S\SOCR\pagliarol\pto\Amd080CT03.doc